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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet 1 of 1

Application Number	10/592,956
Filing Date	September 15, 2006
First Named Inventor	Yoshihiko ABE et al.
Examiner Name	Liam Heincer
Attorney Docket No.	1029650-000176

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Issue/Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)
	6,734,298	B1	Rolando Barbucci et al.	05-11-2004
	5,676,964	A	Francesco Della Valle et al.	10-14-1997
	5,580,923	A	Jeffrey E. Yeung et al.	12-03-1996

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	STATUS						
					Translation	Partial Translation	Eng. Lang. Summary	Search Report	IPER	Abstract	Cited in Spec
	08-257111	A	Japan	10-08-1996				X		X	
	2504163	T	Japan (abstract only)	11-29-1990				X		X	
	2002-529549	T	Japan (abstract only)	09-10-2002				X		X	

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Examiner Signature	/Liam Heincer/	Date Considered	05/06/2008
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with text communication to Applicant.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /L.H./